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## Newsletter

**Number 3 19 February 2016**



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### Thanks

- .. to those who attended interviews this week (students and parents)
- ... to those who supported our zone swimming team at Kokopu this week.
- ... to those who are supporting in the run up to the year 5 and 6 camp.

### People of the Week

... Our international students for their contributions to the school ... a number of students head back to Korea next week and so we wish you well in your travels and as you settle back into life at home.

### Term calendar ... *More to follow as dates come to hand!*

4 March	School Swimming Sports (years 4 to 8)
8 March	Interschool Swimming Sports
10 March	Junior Swimming Sports (years 1 to 3)
17 March	Year 7 and 8 vaccinations
21-24 March	Year 5 and 6 camp to Russell
22 March	Middle School Summer Sports Tournament (year 4 only)
4 April	Hockey coaching sessions start
5 April	Mighty Maui Puppet Show
14 April	Snow White Show
15 April	Final day for term 1

### School Swimming Sports (years 4 to 8) ... 4 March

Please plan to be with us for our School Swimming Sports on 4 March.

Events will proceed (approximately) as follows ...

10:45	Freestyle Races
11:25	Backstroke Races
12:25	Breaststroke Races
12:50	LUNCH
1:30	Relays
2:20	Novelty Races
2:30	Prize Giving

*Remember times are approximate. Special thanks to Total Bobcat Solutions who are sponsoring this year's event.*

The seniors will host a sausage sizzle as part of their fund-raising and so please bring along some change.

### Interschool swimming sports 8 March

Parents of qualifying children received a consent (and some event information) this week. If you have received a consent, and have not yet returned this, please get this to us on Monday. Please note that parents are responsible for the transport and supervision of their own children to/at this event, or you may make your own arrangements to transfer this responsibility to another parent. Please connect with Jenny Wiegiersma when you arrive, Jenny has kindly offered to be our team co-ordinator. Any questions in the run-up to Mrs Sinclair please.

Remember water, sunhats, sunblock and Matarau T-shirts.

### Reminders from last week

... homework programmes are now up and running in most rooms .. please connect with your child's teacher if you have any questions, or if you want your child exempt from home work indefinitely or for a specified period.

... please keep the school gates closed when coming and going from school. Thank you.

... we are currently as "on top" of the headlice situation as it is possible to be .. parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly and to react promptly in the event of infestation.

... out of fairness to other families the board requests that all families pay their school contributions if possible. **If feeling financially stretched at the moment parents are welcome to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.**

### A new service for year 7 and 8 students

Our year 7 and 8 teachers will oversee senior study time in room 11 from 3:00 to 4:00 PM every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. This is for year 7 and 8 students only and is an opportunity for students to do assigned homework in a quiet study space with support where needed. There will be no cost to parents. This programme is open to students on both the full Cambridge and mixed programmes.

Students may attend only one or all three sessions at the discretion of their parents. Parents will need to pick their children up at 4:00pm on the dot please.

If you would like your child to participate in the study support programme you can register them next week by emailing Mrs Donaldson on [kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz](mailto:kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz)

### Year 7 and 8 Options

This week year 7 and 8 students were given the opportunity to rank their preferences for their forthcoming options programme. The options programme is an opportunity to do some learning in areas which extend and challenge thinking. Options include Korean, Spanish, Sport Science, Science, Digital technologies and coding and Te Reo. If your child has not yet returned their preference, please return this no later than Monday so that we can confirm classes. Children will be placed in 2 options (each of 45 minutes duration) for one term ... at the end of a term they can continue or select alternative options. Groups will be smaller than 10 students and so a great opportunity to make progress in their chosen areas.

### Cambridge Meeting ... parents of year 7 and 8 students

As we progress with implementation of the Cambridge Secondary 1 programme we intend to inform parents of any significant developments. To this point the programme is exceeding our expectations and we are hugely excited about the significant advantages this programme (including those on the mixed programmes) will give our students on entry to secondary school. We believe our goal of having our students approximately 12 months ahead (on entry to secondary) than they would have been had they not done the programme is a realistic one. While academically rigorous, the programme we have designed (because Cambridge is very flexible) also has plenty of fun, interaction, sport and opportunities to develop relationships and character.

**If you would like to hear how things have started you are invited to meeting to be held in room 11 starting 3:15pm on Thursday 10 March. If you have younger children you are also welcome to attend this meeting.**

(at some future point we will talk about our science lab and how this will be used to grow curiosity and competence in science).

### Needing help with your child's digital device?

Mr D is happy to answer any questions you might have. He is at school Tuesdays and Fridays (Tuesday best day if dropping by) or he can be contacted via our school email.

### Parents of children in Learning Support Programmes

... please show an interest in what your child is doing in these programmes, ensure they have a set time and place for their assigned work (the evening after each session at school) and praise them for every gain no matter how small.

### Korean language Lessons

... start this coming week. If your child is involved please show an interest in what they are doing and praise their efforts.

### International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Consent forms for the above competitions will be sent out next week. If you would like your child to receive a consent form please let your child know (or the office if you suspect they may have an aversion to the idea) and we will ensure they get a consent. Please return completed consents and exam fee at your nearest convenience. The English Exam is scheduled for 2 August and the Maths Exam for 16 August.

### Congratulations

To the following children who qualified to represent our zone at this week's zone swimming sports.

	<b>BACKSTROKE</b>	<b>BREASTSTROKE</b>	<b>FREESTYLE</b>
<b>Year 8 Boys</b>	Conal Anderson Matarau	Brigham Lawrence Matarau Conal Anderson Matarau	Conal Anderson Matarau Brigham Lawrence Matarau
<b>Year 8 Girls</b>	Maddison Fred Matarau	Lillie Pitchforth Matarau	Maddison Fred Matarau
<b>Year 7 Boys</b>	Connan Wiergersma Matarau	Brendon Pol Matarau	
<b>Year 7 Girls</b>	Jaimee Delamare Matarau	Jaimee Delamare Matarau	Jaimee Delamare Matarau Jynaia Hewson Matarau
<b>Year 6 Boys</b>	Connor Hegh Matarau Kyle Hanlon Matarau	Kyle Hanlon Matarau	Sage Going Matarau Connor Hegh Matarau
<b>Year 6 Girls</b>	Caitlin Henry Matarau		
<b>Year 5 Boys</b>	Asher O'Donnell Matarau Harrison Brooker Matarau	Harrison Brooker Matarau Lachie Marvin Matarau	Asher O'Donnell Matarau Harrison Brooker Matarau
<b>Year 5 Girls</b>	Ava Perkins Matarau	Esther Wiergersma Matarau	Ava Perkins Matarau Esther Wiergersma Matarau
<b>Year 4 Boys (25m)</b>		Caden Gunson Matarau	Caden Gunson Matarau
<b>Year 4 Girls (25m)</b>	Mila Pivac Matarau Greah Seuren Matarau	Morgan Curran Matarau Nyree Pol Matarau	Greah Seuren Matarau Mila Pivac Matarau

### Pool Keys

The pool will be available for public use. Hire keys are available from the school office at \$30 per family for the 2016 swimming season. If you have a key from last year it is important that you return this as soon as possible. Last year's keys will not work on the lock in 2016. No fence jumping and **please remember to lock the school gate when leaving.**

### Year 5 & 6 Camp

If you have not yet returned your permission forms please get these to the school office by Monday. If you would like to discuss time payment arrangements please contact Kevin and we can negotiate something that works for you. A reminder that overnight camp parents need to be police vetted and so please contact Mr Schuster if you have not yet provided the necessary documents and forms.

### Manaakitanga ... important enough to mention again!

This year our overarching virtue (principle) is *Manaakitanga*. Literally, manaakitanga means to "care for a person's mana" (well-being, in a holistic sense). On a marae, it is often claimed that it is not what is said that matters, but how people are looked after. Many consider this is the essence of manaakitanga. We are looking forward to growing our understanding of what this means in the broader sense, but this definition will be our starting point.

We invite parents to join with staff and children in practising manaakitanga this year. We have a duty to respect, nurture, encourage and support each other (even ... perhaps even especially ... those we disagree with). Words and actions ripple ... we have a duty to consider how our words and actions safeguard the

mana of others. There are endless possibilities for each of us to grow and learn together as we explore this concept. Please join us!

### **Incredible Years Parenting Programme**

If interested in doing this programme, or in simply knowing more, you are invited to meet one of the programme facilitators (Cassie Munson) in our school library 3:15, 2 March. Another programme is planned (likely location Clark Road Chapel in Kamo beginning 15 March .. morning sessions), and so this is a chance to express interest and / or to ask questions. This programme is very highly recommended and well worth it if you can spare the time.

**If you think you might be in attendance at this brief meeting please advise Helen on Monday so that we can gauge numbers. If you cannot make this meeting and would like to know more please phone Cassie on 0212343527 ASAP**

### **Te Reo Programme**

Te Reo lessons are well underway. Whaea Charlene Morunga visits each class weekly and children are involved in a variety of activities including singing, movement, and language activities. So far children have been learning the Maori alphabet, greetings and responding on how they feel. Over coming weeks children will name classroom items, follow instructions, recite their pepeha and learn new songs. Charlene is doing an awesome job and is more than happy to chat with interested parents during break times or before or after school on arrangement. Feedback from teachers, parents and students has been very positive and children are enthusiastically using their te reo skills around the school.

### **Whanau Group BBQ**

Our school whanau group will meet by the pool 3:15pm Monday 14 March for a swim and sausage sizzle. Any interested families are welcome to join them.

### **Finally ... An interesting observation**

We have noticed that many of the students in our full Cambridge maths programme were the same students who attended after school maths labs 2 or 3 years ago for extra support. We are thrilled to see that these students have made exceptional progress through their middle school years and congratulate them, their middle school teachers, and their parents for taking advantage of this extra support. This is stunning and, in some cases, much better than expected progress. It seems as though these labs were well worth your effort!

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children, please support them

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Regards ... *nga mihi*  
Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

### **Guitar Lessons**

If interested in your child learning guitar after school, please phone Vangie on 434 7573 or 021 1883251, or email killalea@ihug.co.nz

## **Community Notices**

**Irish Dancing Lessons** - Matarau School Hall, Wednesdays 4-5pm weekly. \$10 per lesson, first lesson free.

Contact Teresa Walker - 021 165 9360

**Circus Skills Classes** - Mondays from 29 Feb 4pm-5.30pm - Youth Class 9 -18yrs olds, 5-8yr olds  
Wednesdays from 2 March from 4pm- 5.30pm, More information text Abbe from Circus Kumarani on 0212375176 or email clark.abbe@gmail.com